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Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116-
Expedited Procedure – Examining
Group Art Unit 1764

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Takagi et al.

Examiner: Wachtel, A.

Serial No.: 09/731,935

Group/Art unit: 1764

Filed: December 7, 2000

Docket: 188-84

For: METAL COATED FIBER MATERIALS Dated: April 3, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY OF OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

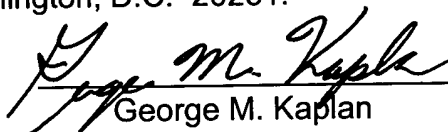
It is respectfully requested that finality of the Office Action mailed February 25, 2003 by the Patent and Trademark Office be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Claim 19 was not rejected over any art in the previous nonfinal Office Action mailed August 28, 2002. Accordingly, Claim 19 was amended into independent form as Claim 20 in the preceding Amendment filed December 2, 2002.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

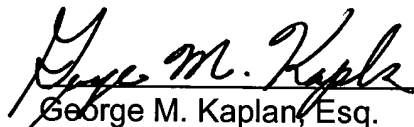
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Date: April 3, 2003


George M. Kaplan

The Office Action mailed February 25, 2002 rejects Claim 20 over art. Accordingly, since this previously-presented claim is being rejected for the very first time, it is respectfully submitted that the present Office Action should be nonfinal. Withdrawal of finality of the Office Action in accordance with M.P.E.P. §706.07(c) and (d) is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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